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patrimonio natural
Fondo para la Biodiversidad y Áreas Protegidas

USAID/COLOMBIA FUNDED CONSERVATION LANDSCAPES PROGRAM COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT AID-514-A-09-004



Photo: Monitoring workshop in Utria with indigenous communities. Javier Castiblanco, CLP monitoring specialist

Fourth Quarterly Report (April – June, 2010) September 2010



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ACRONYMS

AATIS	Traditional Indigenous Authorities Association
AECID	Spanish International Cooperation and Development Agency
AEMAPPS	Analysis of Management Effectiveness of Protected Areas with Social Participation
ARD	Associates in Rural Development, Inc.
ASOCARS	Colombian Association of Environmental Authorities
CA	Cooperative Agreement
CAR	Regional Environmental Authority
CC	Community Council
CDB	Convention on Biological Diversity
CIPAV	Sustainable Agricultural Production Systems Research Center
CLP	Conservation Landscapes Program
COP	Chief Of Party
CTC	Technical Consulting Committee
FPN	Patrimonio Natural - Fondo para la Biodiversidad y las Áreas Protegidas
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
GHF	Global Heritage Fund
GIS	Geographic Information System
IAVH	Instituto Alexander von Humboldt
ICANH	Instituto Colombiano de Antropología e Historia
IDEAM	Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies Institute
INCODER	Colombian Rural Development Institute
INVEMAR	Jose Benito Vives de Andreis Marine and Coastal Research Institute
MAVDT	Ministerio de Ambiente, Vivienda y Desarrollo Territorial
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
PA – SINAP	SINAP Action Plan
PAU	Project Advisory Unit
PIU	Project Implementation Unit
PMP	Performance Monitoring Plan
NNP	National Natural Park
NPU	National Parks Unit
NPS	National Park Service (U.S.)
POA	Annual Operative Plan
PMP	Performance Monitoring Plan
REM	Special Management Regime
RFA	Request for Appraisal
RFFRA	Request for Final Revised Application
RESNATUR	Colombian Association of Civil Society Reserves
SIAC	Colombian Environmental Information System
SIDAP	Departmental Protected Areas System
SILAP	Local Protected Areas System
SINA	National Environmental System
SINAP	Sistema Nacional de Areas Protegidas
SIRAP	Sistema Regional de Areas Protegidas
SNSM	Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta
STTA	Short term technical assistance
ToR	Terms of Reference
UAESPNN	Unidad Administrativa Especial del Sistema de Parques Nacionales Naturales
USFS	United States Forest Service
USG	United States Government
WB	World Bank



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1. INTRODUCTION

The period April-June proved an active one, as the NPU gained momentum in its implementation of the work plan. The Fragua, Utría and Catatumbo parks completed their teams and were well on their way towards strengthening actions for sustainable production systems, ecological restoration, control and surveillance, research and monitoring, environmental education and other training exercises. In a parallel endeavor, the NPU's central office made substantial improvement in the strategic plan main lines: control and surveillance, ecotourism, declaration of new protected areas, community participation, communications, research planning, monitoring, restoration and sustainable production systems, management plans and the SINAP action plan.

Related to the above, training sessions and socialization on environmental procedures were carried out with the Park's personnel in charge of implementing sustainable production processes. Some of these field visits were also profitable to review the targets for each park with the relevant staff and engage their efforts towards attaining these results.

On the local operators' front, proposals were presented during this quarter for the Utría, Catatumbo and Cocuy APS. The assessment of the projects, meetings with some of the persons responsible for these proposals and the parallel development of PAS studies occupied most of the time for the CLP team.

Other sections of this report are related to the results obtained in the fourth quarter of the first year of the program. Although the actual date of subscription was on the 23rd of July 2009, in this last quarter it is possible to make a summary of results for the first year, according to the Program's indicators and related targets. Consequently, the report is a quarterly in one sense but also an annual report pertaining to the general targets for the Program. This was the first complete test of the PMP methodology and reference sheets indications, including verification methods and compilation of this evidence.

As usual, for the quarterly report we include a section on meaningful accomplishments; another for challenges and constraints; the expected activities for the next quarter; a more detailed description of actions implemented, success stories and the lessons learned from these achievements. Finally, there are two tables: one listing the planned activities for the next quarter, and the second one contains information on the APS/RFA release plan.



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2. SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD

2.1. Advances in NPU activities

During this quarter the NPU, both at the central level (cross-cutting activities) and the parks, had important accomplishments in the strategic lines of action as presented in the NPU general plan. Many national level strategic documents were completed, updated or thoroughly revised. These actions involved frequently the participation of the territorial offices, parks' managers, technical staff and other experts invited for the occasion. In this sense it can be said that a general mobilization has been enacted and the CLP has made a substantial contribution to this aim, either supporting the workshops or consultancies, or summoning international experts from the USFS to cooperate and build new insights. Most of the thematic areas at the NPU have had some sort of action, while those still relatively inactive have been preparing major exercises, such as those of the SINAP group and the planning and tracking office, which will make important contributions in the second semester.

2.2 Proposals received and evaluated for the Annual Program Statements: Utría, Cocuy, Catatumbo

The proposals received for the clusters were mostly of great interest, even when their elaboration was unadorned and a pragmatic and empirical stance was identified as coming from local communities. Just a few of the projects came in late or where incomplete, hindering an evaluation and thus rejected. Most of the projects, then, summoned the attention of the CLP team and absorbed most of the time while the administrative, financial and technical assessments were in effect. Additional time was needed to explain the required adjustments to the different entities, and many arrangements derived from this procedure are still under way, so actual approval and contracts will be possible in the next quarter.

2.3 Subscription and first phase of implementation of agreement for the Amazon Piedmont Cluster

At the end of the last quarter an agreement was signed with the Amazon Conservation Team, a local operator for the Alto Fragua Indi Wasi NNP area. The preparation of environmental revision forms ensued, and continued throughout the period for the other sub-projects. At the same time, several technical and administrative meetings were held between the ACT staff and the CLP team in order to complete these requirements. These advances will allow proceeding with the approval of the remaining sub-projects and signing a modification of the agreement to incorporate all new information.

2.4 CLP exhibit in the FIMA environmental fair

In the sense of being a public affair, and although every communication action can be qualified as such, the most important action during this quarter was the CLP's FIMA exhibit. Intense preparation of the stand's exhibits: photos, video, pamphlet and preparation of the staff for looking after the public questions and petitions, was compensated by the visitors' appreciation.



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3. CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS

3.1 Challenges met during the reporting period

Large enough to have some obstacles, the number of applications was the mark of this quarter in relation with the NPU's activities. These small mishaps served well in the sense of helping to correct and streamline the procedures or to explain to some officers a special procedure. Otherwise, the terms of reference for special acquisitions such as infrastructure and radio systems were a disappointment, because of the repeated announcement of their being ready did not culminate in a final process. Afterwards it was realized that many technical aspects and budgetary aspects had to be considered, so the time spent will be fruitful in a short while.

Judging from the number of meetings, technical appraisals and field visits, an effective support and training has been provided to the NPU technical personnel and to the local operator in the Fragua area. Nonetheless, it has been such a demanding task that it compelled the CLP coordination to consider some strengthening by hiring some technical assistance for both the technical and the monitoring areas. This will be accomplished in the next quarter.

The communications strategy has been developing and incorporating the main aspects such as the web page, branding and marking manual, special exhibits such as the FIMA fair, the radio programs review, adjustment and approval process, and training on branding and marking for NPU staff participating in workshops or other public actions. As the current work plan entails a close coordination with the NPU, there have been several occasions to improve interaction between the respective teams, especially during the FIMA preparation and unfolding of the event. This endeavor will need additional emphasis and the formal instance will be the communications committee.

3.2 Major constraints faced during the reporting period

Regarding the NPU, the two main constraints have been the extremely slow action taken by the Katíos Park and having the final version of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta work plan. Although every person concerned in the Katíos case has been alerted, and meetings held in Medellín in an effort to accelerate the operation, the response has been far from optimal. Structural reasons may be behind this situation, hampering any CLP action towards a more satisfactory reaction. On the other hand, the Sierra Nevada work plan has had many parts making uneven progress: the indigenous people activities have been reviewed and adjusted according to the approved budget, and the Ciudad Perdida plan has established some feasible targets for a first phase of operation.



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4. DETAILED PROGRAM ACTIVITIES DURING REPORTING PERIOD

4.1 Operative structure

Following the agreement between USAID, ARD Inc. and FPN that concluded that the PIU based in ARD Inc., would change to a Program Advisory Unit, this agreement was signed between FPN and ARD Inc. in March 2010, and continued until the 3rd of June 2010. At this time the last deliverables were completed, such as the two workshops on security issues. Upon finishing the corresponding agreement between ARD and USAID, the latter decided to donate to FPN some of the equipment used by ARD, contributing to the operational strengthening.

Notwithstanding, some activities in charge of the PAU were pending, such as training on projects' closeout and liquidations, because the proposals are beginning approval process. Also, FPN travels for international contacts will be defined by the direction at FPN when conditions are thought favorable. The NICRA certification process, as it begins only after the first CLP audit, will have to be carried out on 2011.

4.3 Grants process for local operators

The first grant agreement was signed on 30th April 2010 with the Amazon Conservation Team (ACT), for the Fragua cluster area. Meanwhile, and for this same cluster, the process continued with a rather small proposal from the Fundación Esawá, and at the end of the period it was in its final steps, having incorporated the recommendations and completed the targets.

During this period, training on USAID's communications, administrative and environmental requirements was accomplished with the Amazon Conservation Team. Several meetings were dedicated to the financial and legalization aspects.

The evaluation of proposals for the Utría, Cocuy, and Catatumbo NNP cluster areas proceeded during this period. The Utría APS was closed on the 16th June, as enough projects had been received for the available budget. A total of 11 proposals were received on time and assessed, where two were not qualified for grants. Then, a technical and administrative visit was made to the area for a direct appraisal of the potential local operators. Both the visit to the area and the preliminary PAS studies indicated a weak administrative and financial capacity by most of the operators, so an alternative has to be sought to assemble the promising projects in groups with the leadership of capable operators. This possibility will be examined in the next term with the different parties concerned.

For the Catatumbo region, three proposals have been presented during this period. An evaluation was conducted and adjustments were required. One of the potential operators was asked to certify its private status, as the PAS study conducted so far was not conclusive in this respect. A single proposal has been received at the end of this period for the Cocuy



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region, directed towards the eastern border of the Park in the savanna piedmont area. Some recommendations were made to include conservation aspects and ascertain the status of the institution presenting the project, because of its relation with the municipality of Tame. More projects are expected before the due date for Catatumbo the 9th August and for Cocuy the 15th August.

4.4 Implementation of activities by NPU

The liaison officer and the CLP coordinator made the revision of a total of 87 procedures during this quarter. Of these, 62 were applications for workshops, meetings, technical field trips, technical committees and similar matters, involving both the cross-cutting area and the parks, while 25 were contracts for professionals, laborers or technical assistants for the different parks in the clusters and some strategic lines of action based in the central NPU office. The Fragua NNP manager and team have advanced the most, followed by Utría, Catatumbo and Cocuy. The Katíos NNP has only one professional working on limits issues, and few other activities despite repeated calls for action.

The Fragua, Utría and Catatumbo parks completed their teams and accomplished several actions for sustainable production systems, ecological restoration, control and surveillance, research and monitoring and other training exercises, meetings and workshops. Meanwhile, the NPU's central office carried out a series of events at the national level, for the thematic areas of ecotourism, control and surveillance and research. A workshop for control and surveillance was carried out, where the National Strategy for this topic was examined and complemented by the six territorial offices and 15 managers from different parks, including eight parks included in the CLP. An important milestone for ecotourism was the workshop in Chingaza, with the participation of experts from the USFS, to analyze the Ecotourism Planning Methodology and operational aspects. Previously, the USFS experts had reviewed the technical document; subsequently, the discussions were animated and both the NPU and USFS experts declared gaining new insights in the subject.

The research strategy for the NPU has been updated by examining previous documents for the Utría, Cocuy, Tayrona, Flamencos and Doña Juana parks, organizing a workshop for the Amazon piedmont cluster to socialize the National Strategy for Research, and planning field trips to some areas such as Catatumbo. The professional in charge of this topic also participated in the SINAP Research and Monitoring Round Table, where the work plan for this group was consolidated.

The declaration of new protected areas was strongly promoted by different technical meetings and visits from international and national experts to underscore the importance of nominations such as Bahía Málaga and Playona Acandí, and stand up to the industrial attempts to use the Bahía Málaga area as an industrial harbor.

A series of meetings, organized by the Participation Office, assembled important groups of community councils and indigenous authorities' leaders. These events consolidated the NPU approach for reaching consensus with communities, especially those in the pacific region, such as the "Acuerdo Uramba". Also, radio workshops and related actions by the communications team were developed in the pacific region and Doña Juana NNP.



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The National Strategy for Environmental Education was updated and consolidated through a series of theoretical and methodological contributions from the local teams and the territorial office staff. Complementary information on local experiences was received. Stakeholders were characterized and a Goffin diagram was drawn for each region (Andean, Amazonia-Orinoquia, Caribbean and Pacific). In the next quarter, with this consolidated document, workshops will be made to socialize and build the local action plan for the CLP cluster areas.

Another process that has been advancing albeit slowly are the terms of reference for NPU infrastructure and equipment, especially digital radio systems. Several versions for control and surveillance cabins, either repairs or new infrastructure have been reviewed by the liaison officer and program coordinator, but field visits and budget restrictions have required further changes, so it is expected to have them ready for the next quarter.

Several meetings and field trips from the CLP's technical professional and the monitoring and evaluation specialist have been conducted in order to support NPU technical teams for compliance with USAID's procedures and to socialize targets related to the program's indicators.

4.5 Communications activities and cooperation with NPU

The web page design consultancy was finished and the CLP communications specialist began writing and preparing the contents for approval by USAID. Also, the branding and marking manual consultants have been progressing and it is expected to have a complete version for the next quarter.

A communications strategy emphasizing the role of the CLP and FPN team was prepared and delivered to USAID. Some adjustments were asked for and these will be delivered in the next quarter.

The CLP communications specialist prepared the stand and printed materials on the CLP for the FIMA environmental exhibition, carried out in Corferias (Bogotá). The stand included photographs from the six parks, a video showing the most important conservation aspects for these parks, and some texts explaining the main objectives of the program. The CLP team and a NPU professional took shifts to look after the exhibit and answer the questions from the public.

The NPU has continued activities in the pacific region and Doña Juana NNP with workshops to prepare communities for radio journalism. Beforehand, the CLP communications specialist has socialized the regulation on branding and marking for their application.

The university radio network and the NPU communications team has been moving forward to produce the radio programs for broadcasting, and each program has been sent for approval to USAID. A meeting was held between the NPU communications officer, the CLP coordinator and the director of the radio network at the Universidad Javeriana to examine some arrangements for preparing the scripts and the actual program recording, seeking more agility and easy comprehension for a general public.



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4.6 Communications activities: Success stories

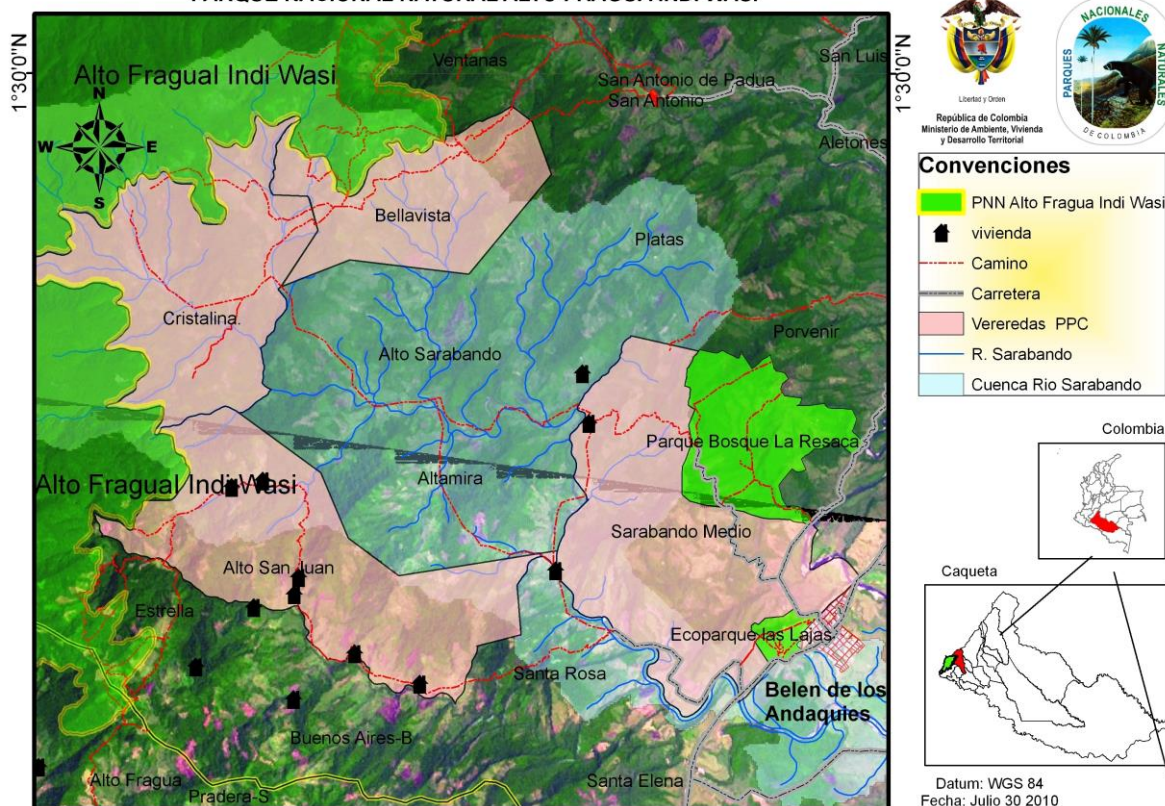
Familias campesinas inician producción sostenible

San José de Fragua, Caquetá. Las familias campesinas e indígenas que habitan la zona de amortiguamiento del Parque Nacional Natural Alto Fragua, ubicado en el departamento del Caquetá, suroccidente de Colombia, tendrán la oportunidad de mejorar su calidad de vida mediante la puesta en marcha de iniciativas productivas sostenibles tales como huertas caseras, reconversión ganadera (división de potreros, cercas vivas, construcción de establos), especies menores (gallinas, peces, cerdos) e infraestructura agropecuaria, parcelas diversificadas (plátano, cacao, caña), y acciones de restauración para la recuperación de bosques y fuentes hídricas (aislamiento de márgenes de quebradas y nacimientos de agua).

Estas acciones hacen parte de la puesta en marcha del Programa Paisajes de Conservación (PPC), financiado por la Agencia de Estados Unidos para la Cooperación Internacional (USAID, por su sigla en inglés), que en conjunto con Parques Nacionales Naturales, y Patrimonio Natural –fondo para la biodiversidad y las áreas protegidas, iniciativa que apoya la implementación de actividades lícitas y sostenibles en ecosistemas de gran biodiversidad, como lo es el piedemonte amazónico de Colombia.

Treinta y cuatro familias campesinas pertenecientes a las veredas Bellavista, Cristalina, Alto San Juan, Alto Sarabando y Sarabando Medio y comunidades indígenas de los resguardos El Portal, La Esperanza y La Cerinda, ubicados en la zona de influencia del Parque, recibirán apoyo para transformar sus sistemas productivos en iniciativas compatibles con el ecosistema de sus territorios, al tiempo que logran aportar a la satisfacción de sus necesidades básicas (seguridad alimentaria).

**MAPA DE AREA DE INTERVENCIÓN
PROGRAMA PAISAJES DE CONSERVACIÓN
PARQUE NACIONAL NATURAL ALTO FRAGUA INDI WASI**



Para ello, el equipo del Parque realizó una serie de visitas preliminares a cada uno de los predios, observó las condiciones ambientales propias de cada uno e identificó las expectativas de las familias frente a las posibles actividades que se desarrollarán en las 100 hectáreas que se espera intervenir.

Con la implementación de estos sistemas productivos el PPC espera incrementar la oferta ambiental existente en la región, de igual manera se busca fortalecer los procesos de producción sostenible en esta importante zona del país.

“Las iniciativas productivas lícitas y sostenibles en la zona de amortiguamiento del Parque AFIW permitirán que estas familias tengan acceso a capacitación sobre el manejo de sus predios, al tiempo que se aporta a los procesos de ordenamiento territorial del parque y su zona de influencia”, explicó Beatriz Gallego, profesional técnica del PPC.

El PPC es una iniciativa de cooperación técnica y financiera que busca fortalecer la capacidad institucional y la gobernabilidad en las áreas protegidas y sus zonas aledañas para que en el largo plazo se logre la conservación de la diversidad natural y cultural, al tiempo que se mejoran las condiciones de vida de las comunidades que habitan las áreas geográficas priorizadas por el Programa.



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Seguimiento a la cacería en Utría

Bogotá, Colombia. Con el fin de iniciar la implementación del Régimen Especial de Manejo (REM) en la zona de traslape del Parque Nacional Natural Utría con el territorio de las comunidades indígenas del Resguardo Jurubirá-Chori-Alto Baudó (departamento de Chocó, noroccidente colombiano), se realizó recientemente el taller “Monitoreo de cacería con las comunidades indígenas del Resguardo Jurubira-Chori-Alto Baudó”.

El taller contó con la participación de representantes de las comunidades indígenas, el equipo del Parque y del Programa Paisajes de Conservación, financiado por la Agencia de Estados Unidos para el Desarrollo Internacional (USAID, por su sigla en inglés).

El Programa de monitoreo del Parque Utría incluye la puesta en marcha de una estrategia de monitoreo de la actividad de la cacería en el área del REM como parte de una estrategia de seguimiento al estado de los valores objeto de conservación y de las presiones que los afectan.

Javier Castiblanco, Profesional de Monitoreo del Desempeño del Programa Paisajes de Conservación, explica que “este taller es un paso muy importante pues facilitará la toma de decisiones conjunta sobre el manejo del territorio traslapado, el seguimiento a su estado de conservación, el monitoreo sencillo y efectivo de un recurso importante para la seguridad alimentaria de las comunidades Emberá, y un mejor trabajo conjunto entre las comunidades indígenas y el equipo de trabajo del Parque”.

Como parte del taller se realizó una contextualización del área protegida, de la importancia del REM y de la articulación de estos con el Programa Paisajes de Conservación. Asimismo, se destacó la importancia de ejecutar un seguimiento continuo de los avances en conservación y desarrollo sostenibles logrados en el Parque y en el territorio de los resguardos indígenas de Jurubirá-Chori-Alto Baudó.

“En este taller se notó la activa participación de los indígenas en las discusiones conceptuales sobre la importancia de cuidar y usar adecuadamente el recurso fauna, en la construcción conjunta de los formatos de cacería y en el compromiso final de iniciar la toma de información, siempre contando con el apoyo técnico y logístico del personal del Parque y del PPC”, expresó Nancy Murillo, administradora del Parque Utría.

Durante la mayor parte del taller, algunos de los miembros de las comunidades que al mismo tiempo hacen parte del equipo del Parque, tradujeron a su lengua nativa los conceptos y las explicaciones técnicas expuestas por el equipo del área protegida y por el profesional de Monitoreo del Desempeño del PPC.

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Avances del acuerdo Uramba en el Pacífico colombiano

Bogotá, Colombia. La II Mesa Regional del Acuerdo Uramba, firmado por las comunidades afrodescendientes del Pacífico colombiano y las áreas protegidas que hacen parte de esta franja del país, realizada recientemente avanzó en el proceso de consolidación de una política territorial compartida con las organizaciones étnico-territoriales de las comunidades negras del Pacífico.

Durante los 5 días del evento, realizado recientemente, se analizaron varias problemáticas que actualmente afectan la conservación de las áreas protegidas así como la protección de los territorios colectivos.

“Dicho análisis se realizó con el fin de plantear alternativas de acción que desde la articulación entre las instituciones y las comunidades, ofrezcan respuestas efectivas que garanticen la conservación del patrimonio natural y cultural del territorio –región del pacífico”, explico Daniel Rojas, funcionario de Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia.

En este sentido, los acuerdos alcanzados en la II Mesa Regional van en la línea de fortalecer la participación de las comunidades en los espacios locales de concertación, así como en los escenarios regionales y nacionales que permiten conocer políticas que afectan el uso de la biodiversidad, y otros temas relevantes como la conformación del Sistema Regional de Áreas Protegidas (Sirap) Pacífico.

En el evento participaron 26 líderes comunitarios representantes de quince Consejos Comunitarios colindantes con los Parques Nacionales ubicados en la cuenca del Pacífico, así como de varias organizaciones del movimiento social de comunidades afrocolombianas. Entre estas últimas podemos destacar: al Proceso de Comunidades Negras (PCN), el Foro Interétnico Solidaridad Chocó (FISCH), la Asociación de Consejos Comunitarios del Bajo Atrato (ASCOBA), y la Organización Asomanos Negras, entre otras.

Los asistentes a la mesa trataron temas como la evaluación de la implementación de las mesas locales, el desarrollo de la minería y la política del ministerio en territorios colectivos de comunidades negras del Pacífico; la problemática de cultivos de uso ilícito en territorios colectivos de comunidades negras, y las políticas de zonas amortiguadoras y del Recurso Hídrico, entre otros.

“Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia ha venido impulsando la creación de escenarios de diálogo y concertación con las comunidades negras que habitan en los territorios del Pacífico tanto a nivel local como a nivel regional, con el ánimo de construir una estrategia conjunta que, partiendo del reconocimiento del derecho como grupo étnico de dichas comunidades, plantee alternativas en el marco de la conservación, a las distintas problemáticas que se entrecruzan en el territorio-región del Pacífico Colombiano”, manifestó Inés Cavalier, coordinadora del Programa Paisajes de Conservación, iniciativa de cooperación financiada por la Agencia de Estados Unidos para el Desarrollo Internacional (USAID), que respalda las acciones de Parques en la consolidación del acuerdo Uramba.



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El “Acuerdo de Uramba” firmado en septiembre de 2009 con representantes de las distintas comunidades negras que se relacionan con las áreas protegidas del Sistema de Parques Nacionales en el Pacífico colombiano, define una agenda de trabajo conjunta que incluye, entre otras temáticas, la consolidación de un Sistema Regional de Áreas Protegidas con participación de las comunidades, la definición de estrategias frente a problemáticas que amenazan la integridad ecológica de las áreas y la pervivencia de las comunidades negras y el análisis conjunto frente a procesos legislativos y reglamentarios que tocan aspectos relativos tanto a los derechos de las comunidades como al Sistema de Parques Nacionales.

“El Acuerdo de Uramba ha demostrado que es posible hacer acuerdos entre la institucionalidad del Estado y las comunidades y que esos acuerdos se convierten en estrategias efectivas para el cumplimiento de las funciones de la institucionalidad y para la garantía de los derechos de la gente”, dijo Daniel Garcés, representante del Cauca al Comité Operativo del Acuerdo Uramba.

Para mayor información:

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4.7 Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta advance in work plan

A preliminary work plan was enriched during this period with the revised versions of the activity matrixes for the indigenous communities of the Sierra, after several meetings with the local authorities in Valledupar and Santa Marta. Following the custom, each version had to be socialized with the authorities and approved. The process also permitted an assessment of the relative capacity of the organizations, while carrying out the PAS studies. Nonetheless, the situation is not yet cleared for signing an agreement with the indigenous organizations, as they lack the necessary legal representation documents. Only the Wiwa people organization is duly recognized by formal procedures. For the Arhuaco, Kogui and Kankuamos, the Resguardos have official documents, but as these are public entities USAID cannot approve signing a contract with them without a waiver.

The program coordinator, an indigenous community representative and a Park officer made a visit to the Los Clavos river basin in the Valledupar area, to enquire with the campesino community their interest in the program and the potential activities to include in an APS. As explained by the Park manager and some relevant documents, there is an important foundation work carried out by the NPU with the community, which enhances the feasibility of CLP actions and results in the region. The response by the community was positive, and although they lack local organizations capable of preparing and carrying out a proposal, they signaled the possibility of making alliances for this purpose. From this basis, a document for the APS will be prepared for release in the next quarter.

4.8 PMP second report on CLP activities

It was expected to develop an information system for reporting PMP indicators and targets, in coordination with FPN. While several meetings have been held between the monitoring and evaluation specialist and relevant professionals at FPN, in order to establish the requirements for such a system, the consultancy to carry out this activity will have to wait for an amendment to be made to the SoW, including the additional funding where this budget will be included for approval by USAID.

The PMP's August 2010 version has been the basis for the measurement on activities performed by the NPU and a local operator (Amazon Conservation Team) in the first year of the program. Although it encompasses an additional month (July 2010) than the quarter being reported, the CLP coordination deemed interesting to carry out the measurements for the first year of the program, as a ground to take action and catch up where indicators are lagging. It should be noted, however, that the actual beginning of activities was during the first quarter of 2010, and mostly during the April-June quarter. Previously, the preparation of the work plan, the launching of the program and the hiring and training of the first team members had been carried out at the end of 2009. The activities thus reported in the PMP pertain approximately to a six month period in 2010.



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Program Indicator	Target July 2012	First Year Target	First Year Achievement
1. Number of families benefited with sustainable productive systems	680	50	0

There has been no progress in this target, but rather the grounding for the establishment of sustainable production systems in the following areas: Alto Fragua, Utría and Catatumbo. The staff in charge of this implementation has made a diagnosis of the situation and needs in each region, and began the consensus building with the landowners. This has been done by the NPU officers in the above mentioned Parks and by the Amazon Conservation Team in the area surrounding the Alto Fragua park.

Program Indicator	Target ay July 2012	First Year Target	First Year Achievement
2. Number of micro-enterprises, cooperatives, associations and other community organization supported	29	7	22

The main organizations that have received CLP support in this period have been the Afrocolombian Councils, Indigenous associations and other local organizations as beneficiaries of NPU's activities, related to components 1 and 2 of the Work Plan.

Such activities were, for instance, training workshops in sustainable production techniques, land restoration, control and surveillance and environmental education. Some other activities were related to the SINAP and SIRAP strengthening process (Acuerdo Uramba), the declaration process for new protected areas with the participation of local organizations (Bahia Malaga and Playona Acandi processes), implementation of fauna and flora monitoring programs (Indigenous Resguardos in Utria National Park).

Program Indicator	Target ay July 2012	First Year Target	First Year Achievement
3. Number of hectares with sustainable production processes	8500	850	0

This indicator and target is related to No. 1, and as such has not shown advancement other than the basis for the next phase of operation where the agreements will give way to actual implementation of production systems.

Program Indicator	Target July 2012	First Year Target	First Year Achievement
4. Progress in the implementation of the National Parks Unit strategic plan	16 points (80% advance in the implementation of strategic programs in the cluster areas' Parks)	1 point (5% advance in the implementation of strategic programs in the cluster areas' Parks)	3 points (5% advance in the implementation of strategic programs in the cluster areas' Parks)



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This program indicator allows CLP to evaluate the effectiveness of component 2 Work Plan activities especially those of the Cross-Cutting activities. The target refers to the progress in NPU strengthening and the implementation in each of the cluster parks of the following thematic components where considered (“sub-program objectives”):

- Control and surveillance
- Special management strategies
- Research
- Ecotourism

The 1st year achievement is a 15% advance, which means that 3 protected areas (PNN Utría, PNN Alto Fragua Indi-Wasi and PNN Catatumbo) are implementing Special management strategies with the support of CLP.¹

The activities performed were training workshops in sustainable production systems, land restoration and implementation of fauna and flora monitoring programs.

There was also some work done in several topics, and activities were supported by the CLP in some of the selected areas regarding ecotourism, research and control and surveillance, but the reports still lack full compliance of the required status according to the reference sheet measurement standards.²

Program Indicator	Target at July 2012	First Year Target	First Year Achievement
5. Number of monitoring processes of conservation objects implemented in the 6 prioritized national parks	24 new monitoring processes	2 new monitoring processes	1 new monitoring process.

The first year achievement is the implementation of the monitoring program for hunting activity as a joint action of the Utría National park and the Jurubira - Chori - Alto Baudo indigenous Resguardo.

Program Indicator	Target at July 2012	First Year Target	First Year Achievement
6. Percentage of improvement in the management of protected areas according to the AEMAPPS index	Increase of short term effectiveness index according to AEMAPPS methodology	Set up of base line	Set up of base line

According to the reference sheet this indicator has no target for the first year, only a base line has been set up with the workshops and consultancies related to this aim. From February to July 2010 several workshops and meetings were performed in the 52 protected areas of NPU (including those supported by CLP) in order to calculate the actual effectiveness index for every national park. In line with this procedure, the NPU and CLP staff decided that the target for this indicator should be the short term effectiveness index of the AEMAPPS methodology.

¹ For more information see “Plan de Gestión del Desempeño-Programa Paisajes de Conservación”

² Ibid



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Program Indicator	Target at July 2012	First Year Target	First Year Achievement
7. Variation of the percentage of ecosystems represented in the SINAP	Increase of the current percentage (52%).	Not specified	Increase of the current percentage

The declaration of Bahía Málaga NNP, at the beginning of August 2010, will increase the current percentage of ecosystems represented in the SINAP. This information will be calculated based on the relevant ecosystems so far not represented in the current Park System.

Program Indicator	Target at July 2012	First Year Target	First Year Achievement
8. Participation of local communities in biodiversity conservation activities	80% (From 500 to 900 people from different local organizations are strengthened to represent the interests of the community and to participate in planning processes and agreements for biodiversity conservation. AND From 500 to 900 people from different local organizations are qualified in the different thematic components of NPU planning	Less than 500 people from different local organizations are qualified or strengthened to represent the interests of the community and to participate in planning processes and agreements on biodiversity conservation. OR Less than 500 people from different local organizations are qualified in the different thematic components of NPU planning	124 people from 19 local organizations are qualified in the different thematic components of NPU planning with CLP support.

Several training workshops and meetings were performed by NPU personnel in order to qualify participants from local organizations in the following topics:

- Control and surveillance
- Special management strategies
- Research
- Ecotourism
- Landuse Planning
- Ecological Restoration
- Local Communication Strategies



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- Creation of new protected areas with local participation.

Program Indicator	Target at July 2012	First Year Target	First Year Achievement
F (1) indicator: Number of hectares under improved natural resource management as a result of USG assistance	83000	8300	47094

Although the NPU has been working in the first year of this program with different local and national organizations in order to improve natural resource management and conservation, the first year achievement is related to the declaration of a new national protected area called “Uramba Bahía Malaga” (South Pacific Coast).

Despite the fact that this process had been conducted by the NPU, with the support and participation of national and international NGO’s for the last five years, the lasts steps of the process were supported by the CLP.

Program Indicator	Target at July 2012	First Year Target	First Year Achievement
F (2) indicator: Number of people receiving USG supported training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation	6500	650	486

The first year achievement is related to the NPU endeavor to qualify and give technical training and support not only to its personnel, but also to local organizations in order to enrich local and national capacity to enhance landuse planning and biodiversity conservation and management.



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5. LESSONS LEARNED DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD

The most important lessons learned during this period are as follows:

1. Several of the most important activities developed by the NPU have been driven mainly with the support of one of the thematic areas in the technical sub-direction. Stronger engagement by other thematic area heads will enable better execution of activities.
2. Training for the environmental regulations and procedures has been demanding and requires previous diagnostic exercises by the professional teams in the areas; otherwise the abstractions make it difficult to assimilate the exact terms that need to be considered.
3. Obtaining the necessary data for completion of the reports and PMP measurements can be difficult from some thematic areas. Some of the steps taken will have to be standardized for future actions, helping for accurate and up-to-date information on the program's results.
4. A sleek operation requires frequent examination of responsibilities in the CLP team, to redress possible unbalance and improve results for a better execution, while striving for better interaction in the team.



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6. LOOKING FORWARD: PROGRAM ACTIVITIES FOR THE NEXT QUARTER

Table No. 1 - Schedule of activities (July – September 2010)

CLP - SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES				
JULY - SEPTEMBER 2010				
No.	AREA	ACTIVITY	PRODUCT	DATE
1	PIU team	1.1. Hire the grants and contracts specialist and the two regional administrative professionals	Grants and contracts specialist and two regional administrative professionals hired	August and September
		1.2. Prepare terms of reference and hire the STTA for M&E data compilation and inclusion in database	Professional hired as STTA for M&E and technical assistance	September
		1.3. Prepare terms of reference and hire the assistant accountant to strengthen the administrative processes	Accounting assistant hired and trained in USAID's procedures	August
2	NPU implementation of activities in workplans	2.1. Prepare with the respective officers the terms of reference for NPU's acquisitions of equipment and infrastructure	TOR's ready and released	July to September
		2.2. Contracts and acquisitions processes for cross-cutting activities and Parks under way	NPU contracts subscribed and in implementation	July to September
		2.3. Report preparation for NPU activities	Officials in charge of reporting preparing and delivering reports	July
		2.4. Operative committee meeting with NPU for revision of results and management issues	Results and management issues examined and actions planned for application	September
		2.5. Assisting the NPU, grantees and local operators for compliance of environmental regulations (training and assistance for filling in SIGA environmental revision forms)	NPU's relevant officers, and local operators trained and supported for environmental requirements procedures and approval	July to September
3	Local operators' grants allocation process	3.1. Preparation of grant document for contract: Fragua cluster (F. Esawá)	Fund. Esawá contract signed and in implementation in the Alto Fragua region	August
		3.2. Evaluating technical and financial relevance and requiring adjustments for proposals from local operators: Utría, Cocuy, Catatumbo	Proposals evaluated in technical and financial terms, approved by CTC, adjusted according to recommendations	July, August, September
		3.3. Present proposals for approval by the CTC	Proposals considered and grants conferred by CTC	July, August, September
		3.4. Adjustments required from local operators for approved grants	Proposals adjusted in technical and financial terms	August and September
		3.5. Environmental requirements prepared and approved by MEO and PAS conducted for potential local operators	Environmental requirements fulfilled and approved by MEO. PAS conducted for potential local operators as approved by CTC	August and September



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		3.6. Preparation of grant documents for approved proposals: Utría, Cocuy and Catatumbo	Grants' documents prepared and signed with local operators for Utría, Cocuy and Catatumbo	August and September
		3.7. Prepare statements for local operators in Katíos and Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta	Statements prepared and issued	August, September
		3.8. Reception and evaluation of proposals for Katíos, Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta	Proposals received and evaluated	September
		3.9. Meetings with local operators for proposals' adjustments and explanation of procedures for grants	Meetings held, questions cleared and proposals adjusted according to requirements	July to September
4	Performance Monitoring Plan adjustments and implementation	4.1. Validation and fixing the PMP indicators and targets according to additional funding and SoW ammendment.	Indicators and targets validated with the NPU and grantees operators, adjusted and submitted for revision and approval.	August
		4.2. Compiling data related to targets and results analysis.	Report of activities on PMP implementation.	July
		4.3. Support the grant evaluation process by assessing potential targets for grant proposals submitted for appraisal by the CLP	Potential targets estimated according to technical and financial options contained in grant proposals	July and August
5	Communications strategy implementation	5.1. Complete and make final arrangements to web page contents	Web page ready for review and approval by USAID	August
		5.2. Fixing final details for the communications strategy	Delivery of final communications strategy	August
		5.3. Design the branding and marking manual and seek USAID's approval	Branding and marking manual completed and approved by USAID	August
		5.4. Print the branding and marking manual and disseminate with concerned public	Branding and marking manual printed, distributed and known for its application by relevant audience	September
		5.5. Revision and approval process for radio programs with the NPU	Broadcasting of radio programs by the university radio network	July to September
		5.6. Obtain and distribute information on CLP's processes and results by different media	Information on the CLP disseminated by outreach materials to the general public	July to September
6	SoW amendment	6.1. Prepare a project description document and related information for an amendment with additional funds, as required by USAID	Delivery of document for SoW amendment approval process by USAID	August
7	Second year work plan	7.1. Preparation of the second year workplan for revision and approval by USAID	Second year work plan completed and sent for endorsement	August
		7.2. Notifying responsible officers at NPU for implementation of activities	Previous and newly nominated officers informed and carrying out planned activities	September
8	Programming mid-term audit	8.1. Organize the procedures and timetable for CLP's mid-term audit	Course of action for audit ready and responsible team informed	September



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		8.2. Training for FPN's CLP team and officers in procedures for compliance according to USAID regulations	Relevant teams apprised and ready for verification of USAID's regulations in preparation for audit	beginning in September
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Table No. 2: Local Operators Schedule for Proposal Evaluation/Approval

PARK/CLUSTER	Type instrument/ number	Release	Place and date Meeting with operators	Deadline APS/RFA due	Proposals submitted	Evaluation and CTC approval	Adjusted proposals ready	Agreement signed
Katíos	CLP-RFA-005-2010	6 Sept 10	Bogotá 25 Jun 10, 8 Sept 10	30 Sept 10	30 Sept 10	1 Oct 10	8-Oct-10	15-Oct-10
Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta	CLP-RFA-006-2010 (indigenous communities)	10 Sept 10	Sta. Marta 25-26 Feb 10; Valledupar 11-12 May 10; Sta. Marta 18 May 10; Valledupar 16-18 June 10; Valledupar 13 Sept 10	15 Sept 10	15 Sept 10	16 Sept 10	20 Sept 10	24 Sept 10
Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta	CLP-RFA-007-2010 (Ciudad Perdida - Buritaca river basin)	10 Sept 10	Bogotá, 14 Sept 10	30 Sept 10	30 Sept 10	30 Sept 10	11 Oct 10	15 Oct 10
Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta	CLP-APS-007-2010 (campesino communities)	14 Sept 10	Valledupar, 15 Sept 10	15 Oct 10	15 Oct 10	26 Oct 10	2 Nov 10	8 Nov 10

2.2 Challenges expected for the next quarter

1. Analyze the results for the first year of the Program in technical, financial and administrative terms, to draw conclusions and devise amendments so that improved effects can be obtained in every issue examined.
2. Convey the results of this analysis to the main officers at NPU to request their support so that results and procedures are ameliorated for an effective progress in execution, and also for achieving the targets with their full cooperation.
3. Advance substantially in the evaluation, approval, adjustment and contract procedure for the local operator's grants proposals.
4. Finish the RFA and APS releases still pending: Katíos and Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, and begin evaluation and approval processes for proposals.
5. Due to the expected new government changes scheduled for this period, plan and conduct communications events about the CLP's objectives, results and procedures with the new officers in charge of thematic and administrative aspects at the NPU.



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